DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 399 470 CG 025 717

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TITLE Coping with the Disruptive College Student: A Practical Model. The Higher Education Administration Series.
REPORT NO ISBN-0-912557-16-8
PUB DATE 94
NOTE 110p.; Legal consultant, Michael Clay Smith.
AVAILABLE FROM College Administration Publications, Inc. P.O. Box 15898, Asheville, NC 28813-0898 ($14.95).
PUB TYPE Books (010) -- Guides - Non-Classroom Use (055)

EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS *Antisocial Behavior; *Behavior Problems; Classroom Environment; *College Environment; College Faculty; *College Students; *Coping; Discipline; Higher Education; Student Behavior; *Student Problems; Teacher Student Relationship
IDENTIFIERS *Disruptive Behavior

ABSTRACT

Those who have dealt with students over a period of years have come to realize that an increasing number of them are disruptive. This book offers alternatives for responding to disruptive students. Solutions are offered from the perspective of a mental health professional with years of experience on a college campus. A code of student conduct is carefully outlined and is followed by some recommended procedures for dealing with incidents of disruptions, including tips on prerogatives, documentation, and the aversion to administering discipline. Steps to follow when dealing with disruptive students are explored next, and an entire chapter is devoted to disruptiveness in residence halls. Topics in the latter chapter include dealing with the harassment of residential staff, countermeasures to harassment, coping with self-destructive students, assaults, rape, thefts, and vandalism. A college's mental health program should also play a part in helping with disruptive students and the role of the mental health consultant and mandatory psychotherapy as a form of discipline are examined. Some special problems, such as mental illness and dangerousness, medications, child care, and offensive dress, are treated in the next chapter followed by a selection of case studies. Contains a 25-item bibliography. (RJM)

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